

upon plans for the improvement of the mouth of the Mississippi river. In 1877 he located the Nictaux and Atlantic railroad in Nova Scotia. During the year 1876 he held the position of vice-president in the American Society of Civil Engineers, and at the close of 1878 he was elected president of that society for the ensuing year.

Toward the close of 1878 Mr. Roberts accepted the appointment of the Brazilian Government for an examination of the ports and water-ways of the empire with reference to their improvement. His contract was for a period of three years, beginning with 1879, only six months of which remained unexpired at the time of his death. He left New York on the 4th of January, 1879, and arrived in this city on the 27th of the same month. He was at once charged with an examination of the port of Santos, and entered upon his new work in the following month of February. This task was completed in June, and on the 31st of August Mr. Roberts set out for an extended examination of the Upper Sao Francisco. He was accompanied on this survey by Prof. O. A. Derby, of the National Museum, Mr. Rudolf Wieser, assistant, and by several young Brazilian engineers. This survey was the most difficult and important one upon which Mr. Roberts was engaged, the field work alone occupying a period of over six months. After a long interval had elapsed, during which time he served on a commission to report upon the new water-works of this city, Mr. Roberts was commissioned with the examination of various northern ports, and in two separate trips made careful surveys of the ports of Pernambuco, Fortaleza, Maranhao, Victoria, Caravellas, and several other small ports.

Very recently he was instructed to examine the port of Rio Grande, but this work was afterwards deferred in order to have an examination made of the Rio das Velhas, province of Minas Geraes, during the season of low water. Accompanied by Prof. O. A. Derby, geologist, and Mr. J. W. de Aguiar, assistant, Mr. Roberts set out on this, his last survey, on the 2d of July, 1881. He was compelled to suspend his journey on the 7th, at a little settlement, or railway surveyors' camp, called Soledade, where an indisposition which had been troubling him for some days, developed into typhus fever. He died on the evening of July 14th, 1881, in the 72d year of his age, and was buried on the following day in the parish cemetery of Caramandahy, seven leagues beyond the city of Barbacena, Minas Geraes.

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*Stated Meeting, January 20, 1882.*

Present, 7 members.

Vice-President, Mr. PRICE, in the Chair.

Letters were received from the Imperial Society of Naturalists of Moscow, dated Dec. 13, 1881, and January, 1882, asking the participation of this Society in the celebration of

the 50th Anniversary of Mr. Charles Renard's connection with their Society.

A letter was received from the Franklin Institute, dated Jan. 9, 1882, requesting Transactions XV, 3, and Parts 1 and 3 of the Catalogue.

Donations for the Library were received from the Naturforscher Vereins, Riga; Zoologischer Anzeiger, Leipzig; Academia dei Lincei, Roma; Socié'té de Géographie, and Revue Politique, Paris; M. le Vicomte H. de Charencey; Royal Academy, Brussels; Journal of Forestry, Nature and the Greenwich Observatory, London; Natural History Society, and American Statistical Association, Boston; Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, and the Astronomical Observatory of Harvard College, Cambridge; Franklin Institute, American Journal of the Medical Sciences, Journal of Pharmacy, the "American," and the Directors of the Reading Railroad, Philadelphia; West Chester Philosophical Society; U. S. National Museum, Washington; and the Ministerio de Fomento, Mexico.

On motion of Prof. Kendall, Mr. Lesley was elected Librarian.

The following members were placed upon the Standing Committees:

*Finance.*

Eli K. Price,  
Henry Winsor,  
John Price Wetherill.

*Hull.*

S. W. Roberts,  
J. S. Price,  
W. A. Ingham.

*Publication.*

J. L. LeConte,  
D. G. Brinton,  
E. Thomson,  
C. M. Cresson,  
G. H. Horn.

*Library.*

Eli K. Price,  
C. P. Krauth,  
R. S. Kenderdine,  
E. J. Houston,  
Henry Phillips, Jr.

A letter from Dr. J. T. Rothrock, of December 20, 1881,

with a request for the loan of the Muhlenberg Herbarium to Dr. Gray of Harvard, was read; and it was, on motion,

*Resolved*, That the Secretary be authorized to deliver to the order of Dr. Gray, the Muhlenberg Herbarium, in whole or in part, on the receipt of his agent to return the same.

*Resolved*, That ten dollars be appropriated for the payment of the expense of labeling the Herbarium, in accordance with Dr. Gray's forthcoming work.

On scrutiny of the ballot-boxes the following persons were declared duly elected members of the Society :

Mr. William Blades, of London.

Mr. William Trautwine, of Philadelphia.

Rev. Samuel Savage Lewis, of Cambridge, England.

Mr. William Jefferis, of West Chester, Penn.

Hon. Washington Townsend, of West Chester, Pa.

And the meeting was adjourned.

*Stated Meeting, February 3, 1882.*

Present, 6 members.

President, Mr. FRALEY, in the Chair.

Letters of envoy were received from the Musée Guimet, dated Lyons, January 7, 1882; H. Scheffler, Braunschweig, December 6, 1881; and the Torrey Botanical Club, 7 Waverly Place, N. Y. City, January 21, 1882.

A letter of thanks for the action of the Society at its last meeting in regard to the Muhlenberg Herbarium, was received from Dr. Asa Gray, dated Cambridge, January 25, 1882.

A letter from Mr. Leighton Hoskins, dated Philadelphia, February 3, 1882, requesting the loan of the volumes of the Ercolano Bronzi in the Library, was referred to the Secretaries with power to act.

A circular letter was received from the Royal Society of New South Wales, dated Sidney, November 2, 1881.

Donations for the Library were received from the Depart-